

Message Text

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ORIGIN H-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 /010 R

DRAFTED BY H:ASWIFT/EA/K:DAO'DONOHUE:CHG

APPROVED BY EA/K - MR O'DONOHUE

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O 212315Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 125483

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KS

SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE BILL: KOREA

1. CONGRESS ENDED ITS LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY MAY 20 WITHOUT DISCUSSION OF THE FY 76-77 MILITARY ASSISTANCE BILL. AS OF NOW THE SENATE MAY BRING THE BILL TO THE FLOOR SOME TIME NEXT WEEK WHILE IT IS NOT SCHEDULED FOR THE HOUSE UNTIL JUNE 2.

2. ADMINISTRATION HAS MARTIALLED BOTH REPUBLICANS AND FRIENDLY DEMOCRATS TO DEFEAT FRASER PROVISIONS ON AID TO KOREA AND TO RESTORE ORIGINAL ADMINISTRATION REQUEST LEVELS.

3. FRASER IS NOW APPARENTLY WILLING TO DROP THE PL 480 SECTION FROM HIS ARTICLE AND TO REACH SOME TYPE OF COMPROMISE ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE. WE ARE PUSHING HARD FOR DELETION OF ENTIRE FRASER ARTICLE IN THE HOUSE.

4. IN THE SENATE A PARALLEL EFFORT BY CRANSTON AND MCGOVERN TO INTRODUCE THE FRASER RESTRICTIONS HAS

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DEVELOPED. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION, HOWEVER,

AND WE ARE HOPEFUL IT CAN BE DEFEATED. WHILE THERE
IS A RUMOR MCGOVERN MAY TRY TO REINTRODUCE CRANSTON
TYPE AMENDMENT OF RESTRICTIONS ON US TROOP LEVELS,
THERE IS NO INDICATION OF ANY BROAD SUPPORT FOR
TROOP WITHDRAWAL ISSUE .

ROBINSON

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